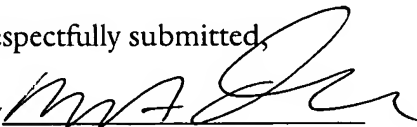


REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice to their underlying subject matter. Claims 14-21 are now pending. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications. Favorable action on the application is solicited.

Dated: December 1, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorney for Applicants